

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 12, 19, 29, 32 and 34 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for multicasting changes made in a directory server, comprising the steps of:

establishing plural multicast groups, each multicast group corresponding to a respective change category for a type of change made to a directory in the directory server ~~plurality of change categories, wherein each multicast group comprises at least one member~~; and

submitting change information for multicasting responsive to a change being made to the directory in the directory server, the change information being submitted to ~~the at least one~~ each member which belongs to a selected one of the plural multicast groups corresponding to the change category of the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the change information is submitted to the multicast group utilizing a connectionless protocol.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of change categories correspond to an add, delete, modify or search change.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein changes made in the directory server are performed utilizing a Lightweight Directory Server Protocol.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein change information is submitted for multicast by a plug-in that extends capabilities of the directory server.

6. (Original) A method according to Claim 5, wherein the plug-in generates information packets based on changes made in the directory server, and submits the information packets to the multicast groups.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein a client registers with at least one of the plural multicast groups in order to obtain the change information corresponding to each multicast group for which the client has registered.

8. (Original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the client registers with multicast groups established for a plurality of directory servers.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining directory server change information, comprising the steps of:

registering as a member of at least one of a plurality of multicast groups, each of the plurality of multicast groups corresponding to a respective change category for a type change made to a directory in the directory server ~~plurality of change categories~~; and

receiving a multicast transmission from [[a]] the directory server, the multicast transmission containing change information submitted to ~~at least one~~ each member which belongs to the multicast group corresponding to the change category of ~~a~~ the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.

10. (Original) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the member registers with multicast groups established for a plurality of directory servers.

11. (Original) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the member registers with at least one multicast group corresponding to add, delete, modify or search change categories.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for multicasting changes made in a directory server, wherein plural multicast groups are established such that each multicast group corresponds ~~corresponding~~ to a respective ~~plurality of~~ change category for a type of change made to a directory in the directory server ~~categories are established~~, comprising:

a processor for executing executable process steps; and

a memory medium storing executable process steps, wherein the executable process steps comprise (a) generating change information responsive to a change being made to the directory in the directory server, wherein the change information corresponds to the type of change made to the directory, and (b) submitting the change information to ~~at least one~~ each member which belongs to a selected one of the plural multicast groups

corresponding to the change category of the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.

13. to 18. (Canceled)

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B 19. (Currently Amended) Computer-executable process steps for multicasting changes made in a directory server, wherein plural multicast groups are established such that each group corresponds ~~corresponding~~ to a respective ~~plurality of~~ change category for a type of change made to a directory in the directory server ~~categories are established~~, the computer-executable process steps comprising:

generating change information responsive to a change being made to the directory in the directory server, wherein the change information corresponds to the type of change made to the directory; and

submitting the change information to ~~at least one~~ each member which belongs to a selected one of the plural multicast groups corresponding to the change category of the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.

20. (Previously Presented) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 19, wherein the change information is submitted to the multicast group utilizing a connectionless protocol.

21. (Previously Presented) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 19, wherein each of the plurality of change categories correspond to add, delete, modify or search.

22. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 19, wherein changes made in the directory server are performed utilizing a Lightweight Directory Server Protocol.

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B 23. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 19, wherein the process steps comprise a plug-in for extending capabilities of the directory server.

24. (Previously Presented) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 19, wherein a client registers with at least one of the plural multicast groups in order to obtain the change information corresponding to each multicast group for which the client has registered.

25. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 24, wherein the client registers with multicast groups established for a plurality of directory servers.

26. to 28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) Computer executable process steps for obtaining directory server change information, comprising:

registering as a member of at least one of a plurality of multicast groups, wherein each of the plurality of multicast groups ~~corresponding~~ corresponds to a respective change category for a type of change made to a directory in the directory server ~~plurality of change categories~~; and

receiving a multicast transmission from ~~[[a]]~~ the directory server, the multicast transmission containing change information submitted to ~~at least one~~ each member which belongs to the multicast group corresponding to the change category of the type of ~~[[a]]~~ change made to the directory in the directory server.

30. (Original) Computer executable process steps according to Claim 29, wherein the member registers with multicast groups established for a plurality of directory servers.

31. (Original) Computer executable process steps according to Claim 28, wherein the member registers with at least one multicast group corresponding to add, delete, modify or search change categories.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for providing notification of changes made in a directory server, comprising the steps of:

establishing plural groups each corresponding to a respective change category for a type of change made to a directory ~~plurality of change categories that can be made~~ in the directory server, ~~wherein each group comprises at least one member~~; and in response to a change being made to the directory in the directory server, sending change information to ~~the at least one~~ each member which belongs to a selected one of the plural groups that corresponds ~~corresponding~~ to the change category of the type of [[a]] change made to the directory in the directory server.

B 33. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 32, wherein the plurality of change categories correspond to different directory operations.

34. (Currently Amended) Computer-executable process steps for providing notification of changes made in a directory server, the process steps comprising the steps of:

establishing plural groups each corresponding to a respective change category for a type of change made to a directory ~~plurality of change categories that can be made~~ in the directory server, ~~wherein each group comprises at least one member~~; and in response to a change being made to the directory in the directory server, sending change information to ~~the at least one~~ each member which belongs to a selected one of the plural groups that corresponds ~~corresponding~~ to the change category of [[a]] the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.

35. (Previously Presented) Computer-executable process steps according to

Claim 34, wherein the plurality of change categories correspond to different directory operations.

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